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Control: 6719
Rec'd: JULY 12, 1956
5:22 PM

FROM: MOSCOW

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 85, JULY 12, 10 P. M.

SENT DEPARTMENT 85; HELSINKI 4.

SPECULATION THAT HAS BEEN GENERATED IN FOREIGN COMMUNITY BY SECOND ITEM ON SUPREME SOVIET AGENDA (EMBTEL 76) MAKES OF MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST FINNISH AMBASSADOR'S REPLY THIS MORNING IN PRESENCE OF OTHER COLLEAGUES TO DIRECT QUESTION OF SWISS MINISTER ON MEANING OF THE PROPOSAL. HE SAID THAT WHATEVER SOVIET INTENT, FINNISH PUBLIC IS APT TO INTERPRET IT OPTIMISTICALLY. HE REFERRED TO THE FINNISH "DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT" SET UP BY THE SOVIETS AT THE TIME OF THE WINER WAR AND SUGGESTED THT IT IS PROBABLY IN THE SOVIET INTEREST TO ERASE THE MEMORY OF THIS LESS THAN SUCCESSFUL RIVAL GOVERNMENT.

WHILE THE INCORPORATION OF KARELO-FINNISH AS AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC INTO RFSSR (REPEAT RFSSR) MAY IN FACT SERVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE PIRPOSES PUT FORWARD BY THE SOVS AS THE OFFICIAL JUSTIFICATON, THE PROPOSAL MUST HAVE A FINNISH ANGLE, A LIKELY ONE BEING THAT SUGGESTED BY THE FINNISH AMBASSADOR.

THE FINNISH AMBASSADOR ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE DATE OF VOROSHILOV VISIT TO FINLAND PUBLSHED THERE IT HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE PUBLIC HERE.

JHF

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR BOHLEN
REVIEWED BY EC DATE 3/20/81
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
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